

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (currently amended): A method for treating ~~a cardiovascular disease~~ myocardial infarction in a subject for which hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) is effective, comprising administering by direct intra coronary injection into heart muscle of a intracoronarily ~~to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an~~ expression vector containing a HGF gene coding sequence ~~in a therapeutically effective amount.~~

8. (currently amended): The method of claim 7, wherein said expression vector is encapsulated in a liposome, ~~the membrane of which may be further fused to attenuated Sendai virus particles.~~

9. (canceled): ~~The method of claim 7, wherein said cardiovascular disease is restenosis after the percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA), myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathy or cardiac insufficiency.~~

10. (new): The method of claim 8, wherein the membrane of said liposome is fused to attenuated Sendai virus particles.

11. (new): The method of claim 7, wherein said expression vector is a viral expression vector containing a HGF gene coding sequence.